

House File 2402 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2402

BY THORUP

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to funding for full-time park employee
- 2 residences at state parks and other facilities operated by
- 3 the department of natural resources.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 422.7, Code 2022, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 63. Subtract, to the extent included,
4 income received by a full-time park employee for park
5 residences provided pursuant to section 456A.13B.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **456A.13B State park residency program**
7 **— fund.**

8 1. The department shall establish and administer a state
9 park residency program. The purpose of the program is to
10 provide quality on-site housing for full-time park employees
11 assigned to state parks or other facilities operated by the
12 department.

13 2. A state park residency fund is established in the state
14 treasury under the control of the department. The fund shall
15 consist of moneys appropriated to or deposited in the fund.
16 Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the department for the
17 purpose of maintaining state park residences in clean, livable
18 conditions for full-time park employees. Maintenance shall
19 include ensuring that all residences comply with applicable
20 building codes.

21 3. If a park residence exists at a state park or other
22 facility and is not otherwise occupied, a newly hired full-time
23 park employee shall have the option to occupy the park
24 residence. A full-time park employee residing at a state park
25 residence or other facility on or after the effective date
26 of this Act shall continue to reside at the park residence
27 or other facility until the full-time park employee decides
28 to vacate the premises or upon retirement, termination, or
29 reassignment. During the time the full-time park employee
30 resides at the state park residence or other facility, the
31 residency shall be considered a mandatory condition of
32 employment and the department shall not collect rent from the
33 full-time park employee. The department shall not charge rent
34 to a full-time park employee residing at a state park or other
35 facility.

1 EXPLANATION

2 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
3 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

4 This bill relates to funding for full-time park employee
5 residences at state parks and other facilities operated by the
6 department of natural resources (DNR).

7 The bill requires DNR to establish and administer a state
8 park residency program to provide quality on-site housing for
9 full-time park employees assigned to state parks or other
10 facilities operated by DNR. The bill establishes a state park
11 residency fund in the state treasury under the control of DNR
12 with funds appropriated to DNR for the purpose of maintaining
13 state park residences in clean, livable conditions for
14 full-time park employees. Maintenance shall include ensuring
15 that all residences comply with applicable building codes.

16 The bill provides a newly hired full-time park employee the
17 opportunity to occupy a park residence that is not otherwise
18 occupied. The bill provides that a full-time park employee
19 who resides at a state park residence or other facility on or
20 after the effective date of the bill shall continue to reside
21 at the state park residence or other facility until the person
22 decides to vacate the premises or upon retirement, termination,
23 or reassignment. When a full-time park employee resides at a
24 state park residence or other facility, such residency shall be
25 considered a mandatory condition of employment and DNR shall
26 not charge rent to the full-time park employee. The bill
27 excludes income received by a full-time park employee for a
28 park residency from the individual income tax.